

Project: Lime Down Solar Project

Interested Party Reference: [REDACTED]

Response to: First Written Questions (ExQ1) – Question CE1.2

From: Lacock Parish Council

Subject: Cumulative Impact Assessment (Question CE1.2)

Lacock Parish Council wishes to respond briefly to Question CE1.2 regarding the cumulative impact of the proposed Lime Down Solar Project and associated infrastructure.

As a neighbouring authority situated immediately adjacent to the wider Melksham Substation area, Lacock Parish Council strongly endorses the submission and concerns raised by Community Action: Whitley and Shaw (CAWS) regarding cumulative impact pathways.

The Parish Council wishes to highlight the following local constraints and pressures that should be rigorously considered by the Examining Authority as part of the cumulative impact assessment:

1. Traffic and Transport: The rural road network through Lacock and surrounding lanes are already under significant pressure. The cumulative impact of construction traffic, construction disruption, and cable trenching across multiple proposed or consented energy and housing developments in the Melksham cluster presents a severe risk of local gridlock and damage to minor roads.

2. Flood Risk and Drainage: The local area has well-documented sensitivities regarding surface water drainage and flooding. The vast scale of proposed solar installations and enabling works connecting to the Melksham Substation should not be assessed in isolation, as their collective impact on the local catchment area could exacerbate flood risks for surrounding parishes, including Lacock.

3. Heritage and Environmental Constraints: Lacock is a historic parish with highly sensitive landscape, ecological, and heritage assets (including extensive Grade I and II listed structures and National Trust protections). The sheer scale and concentration of industrial-scale energy projects connecting to the nearby substation risk fundamentally altering the rural character and setting of the wider area.

Lacock Parish Council urges the Examining Authority to ensure that the cumulative impact assessment is broad enough to encompass all housing, highways, and energy schemes currently planned or foreseeable in this specific pocket of Wiltshire, rather than viewing the Lime Down Solar Project in isolation.

Thank you for considering our representation.

Submitted on behalf of Lacock Parish Council

Date: 12 June 2026